



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH  
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
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Nathaniel H. Yohalem, Chair  
Tara B. White  
Michele Shalaby  
Board of Selectmen

**Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting  
April 28, 2014**

**Board Members Present:** Nathaniel Yohalem, Chairman  
Tara B. White  
Michele Shalaby

**Others Present:** Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant  
Sharon Fleck, Administrative Secretary

**The meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 6:00 p.m.**

The Board of Selectmen read the minutes. **After a discussion, a motion was made and seconded and so voted to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2014, Selectmen's Meeting as amended.**

**Paul Levin** – Attended the meeting to report on the amount of trash that's being thrown on his property. He would like a warning sign erected stating there will be a fine for littering. Mr. Levin also wanted to know if it were legal for him to put up a camera in order to "catch" the perpetrators. He was advised to check with his attorney. Mr. Levin was told that the Town would check with the New Marlborough Police Chief and the Highway Department Superintendent to determine the feasibility of such a sign. This information will be available from the Police Department and the Highway Department by May 19, 2014 and Mr. Levin will be advised of their findings.

**Cemetery Plots** – James Palmer of the Cemetery Commission and Judith Thompson, a resident of New Marlborough, were present to discuss the possibility of the Town acquiring additional cemetery plots. There are limited level spaces available. A suggestion was made to determine whether or not donated property might be available. NM5VM will note that in their next issue to solicit any properties that residents may want to donate. Per Mr. Palmer, a minimum of two acres of dry land would be optimal. Mr. Michael Skorput will advise whether or not tax credits could be given if such property were donated. There are also certain procedures that need to be addressed in establishing a new cemetery. Mr. Michael Skorput will research and advise the Selectmen and Mr. Palmer.

**Work Study Program** – Students (high school and/or college) would work for the Town of New Marlborough in an independent study program and receive credit for their efforts. Mr. Skorput will obtain additional information on this program which could be a win-win situation for both the students and the Town. The information on this work study program came from Berkshire Regional Planning.

**Capital Needs Committee** – Michele Shalaby has started work on a Capital Needs Plan in order to establish the requirements of the town over the next five years. The plan that Selectmen Shalaby developed shows different projected scenarios about the future needs of the Town. It was suggested that a Capital Needs Committee be formed consisting of 3-5 individuals who would report to the Board and the Finance Committee. Chairman Yohalem recommended that one of the members of this committee should be from the Finance Committee and one member should be one of the Selectmen, preferably Michele Shalaby, and that everyone on that committee should have a financial background. Selectman Tara White suggested we advertise for committee members, and then, because this is would be an appointed position, make a selection from that pool of candidates. Ned Odegaard has indicated an interest in being a member of this committee. The “charge” for this committee would be “A Capital Needs Committee to Access the Capital Needs of the Town over the Next 5-10 Years.” An email will be drafted and posted on the Town website, Maggie’s List and the NM5VN requesting assistance from residents to participate on this committee. This notice will also be posted at the General Store in Mill River, the Library, the Southfield Store, the Southfield Post Office and the Mill River Post Office. A Press Release will also be prepared explaining the need for the formation of this committee. Applicants would need to advise the Selectmen by June 15, 2014, of their interest in becoming a part of this committee.

**Foley Bridge** – The Foley Bridge is on target to be completed by the end of August 2014. It is within budget, and although more concrete was used than budgeted for, there are contingency plans and certain items can be reworked in order to keep this project within the financial plan.

**Trash Compactor** – Both Roger Levine and Sharon Fleck are scheduled to go to Springfield, MA to attend a meeting hosted by MassDEP detailing funds (\$30,000.00) available for recyclables and the Town’s need for a trash compactor. Bids are due to the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program by June 11, 2014 and the awards will be made September 2014.

**Miscellaneous** – The water leak at the Highway Department has not yet been resolved. Mr. Loring will continue to work on this issue in order to resolve it. The Board has not yet heard back from the Health Department regarding the written reported required on the David Ralph property.

**Letter requesting meeting with Senator Benjamin Downing and Representative William (Smitty) Pignatelli** - A letter will be prepared requesting a meeting with the two senators regarding regionalization of services. Selectman Shalaby will obtain minutes of the meeting both Senators Pignatelli and Downing had with the Selectmen in Great Barrington outlining the bullet points discussed.

**Letter requesting review with the Department of Revenue (Mr. Kingsley)** – A letter has been prepared requesting the Department of Revenue review the Towns’ financial operations after the audit has been completed. The request will be made for this review to take place in late summer 2014.



**Annual Report and Warrant Schedule** – A schedule was set for each of the Selectmen to be available at various locations and times in order to answer any questions or concerns by the residents regarding warrants. Signs were posted at various locations in town.

### **Warrant Items**

Articles 24 and 25 address the purchase of two Highway Trucks. Highway Superintendent, Chuck Loring and Selectman Tara White will field any questions regarding these proposed purchases.

Article 26 - Fire Truck – Chairman Yohalem will field questions regarding the Fire Truck.

Article 27 - Town Hall Renovations – Selectman Tara White will answer any questions regarding the proposed Town Hall renovations.

Article 28 - Clayton Mill River Bridge – Selectman Michele Shalaby will answers any questions/concerns regarding the bridge.

Article 30 – Transfer Station Renovations –Any questions will be answered by the Selectmen.

Article 31 – Wired West – Questions will be answered by the Selectmen.

Article 32 – Building Inspector Software Account – Ms. Prudence Spaulding will be available to explain this program to the residents.

**Warden for Annual Election** - After a discussion, a motion was made and seconded and so voted to appoint Barbara Swan as warden for the annual election on May 12, 2014.

**Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board, a motion was made, seconded and so voted by all members to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sh Fleck', written in a cursive style.

Sharon Fleck  
Administrative Secretary